Government in preparing the project report of Aurangabad Town during June, 2000 under the scheme of Integrated Development of Small and Medium Towns (IDSMT).

(c) and (d) No team has been sent to Rajasthan. However, there are four Planning and Monitoring Cells of NCR Planning Board functioning in Haryana, Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan and Delhi, which helps the participating States implementing Agencies in identification and formulation of projects in Delhi Metropolitan Area (DMA), priority towns, Sub-regional centres and Counter Magnet towns.

Slum rehabilitation programme in Mumbai

4934. SHRI SATISH PRADHAN: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have requested for the NOC from the State Government of Maharashtra to their ambitious programme of free housing to the slum dwellers in Mumbai under Slum Rehabilitation Programme; and

(b) if so, the Government's response thereto and the steps taken or proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA): (a) No such request has been made by the Ministry of Urban Development and Poverty Alleviation to the Government of Maharashtra.

(b) Does not arise.

Proposal of bringing MCD and NDMC under the Ministry of Urban Development

4935. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to place Municipal Corporation of Delhi (MCD) and the New Delhi Municipal Council (NDMC), which are presently under the control of Home Ministry, to his Ministry to solve the multiplicity of authorities and check encroachments, unauthorised constructions etc. in Delhi; and

(b) whether his Ministry has taken up this matter to place these two local bodies under his Ministry?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA): (a) and (b) The issue of transfer of administrative control of MCD/NDMC to Ministry of Urban Development has been raised from time to time and the last proposal was taken up with the Ministry of Home Affairs in January, 1999. However, there is no fresh proposal at present for transfer of MCD and NDMC under the control of Ministry of Urban Development and Poverty Alleviation.

Reason for delay in Metro Rail in Delhi

4936. SHRI AIMADUDDIN AHMED KHAN (DURRU): Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Delhi Metro Rail Corporation (DMRC) failed to keep its promise to roll out first metro on April, 2002;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the progress made in the project, so far, and by when, it is likely to be commissioned?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA): (a) Commencement of metro train operation on Shahdara-Tis Hazari section of Delhi Metro Phase-I Project, which was initially planned for March, 2002, has been rescheduled for December, 2002.

(b) Delay has been due to delay in finalising some of the international contracts.

(c) Physical progress for the total Delhi MRTS Project Phase-I achieved upto 31.3.2002 is 27 per cent and for Shahdara-Tis Hazari section upto 31.3.2002 is 65 per cent. The Shahdara-Tis Hazari section is expected to be commissioned by December, 2002 and the entire Phase-I of the Delhi MRTS project by September, 2005.